



Department of Pesticide Regulation



Mary-Ann Warmerdam
Director

MEMORANDUM

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

TO: John S. Sanders, Ph.D.
Environmental Program Manager II
Environmental Monitoring Branch

FROM: *Nan Gorder*
Nan Gorder, Ph.D., Chief
Enforcement Branch
916-324-4265

DATE: February 17, 2010

SUBJECT: FIELD INVESTIGATION – HEXAZINONE WELL SURVEY

On December 1, 2009, Leonard Herrera, a Program Specialist with the Pesticide Enforcement Branch Central Regional Office, and Craig Nordmark, an Environmental Scientist with the Environmental Monitoring Branch Ground Water Unit, conducted field investigation surveys near the town of Riverdale in Fresno County. The surveys were conducted to determine if hexazinone residues detected in three domestic wells near Riverdale had reached ground water as a result of legal agricultural use. The investigative reports are attached.

The areas were surveyed in accordance with the Report of Field Investigation of Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act Detection Area, Parts II and III. Staff surveyed approximately one-half mile around each domestic well where hexazinone had been detected for the presence of:

- Pesticide storage or production facilities,
- Irrigation drainage ditches, canals, pits or ponds,
- Facilities for washing and / or rinsing pesticide application equipment, and/or
- Pesticide containers.

Staff did not find any pesticide storage or production facilities; irrigation drainage ditches, pits, ponds or canals; pesticide application equipment washing or rinsing facilities; or hexazinone containers in the areas surrounding these domestic wells. Two features, an unlined canal and a dry pond were examined and determined not to be used for collecting agricultural runoff. The unlined irrigation supply canal runs within 100 feet of two of the wells. The dry pond is approximately 0.3 miles from one of the wells.

Attachments

cc: Karen Francone, Environmental Program Manager I, Enforcement Branch
Leonard Hererra, Program Specialist, Enforcement Branch
Craig Nordmark, Environmental Scientist, Environmental Monitoring Branch



REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

I. Date Referred PUE: November 5, 2009 Detection Report # Loc 1041
 Date Investigation Due: _____ Chemical Detected: Hexazinone
 Site of Detection (List township/range/section as well as address with nearest cross street)
Fresno County - South East West Grantline Ave and Valentine Ave
Sec 36- Township 17s-Range 19e

Chemical was detected in (x) Ground Water () Soil at _____ depth

Check any of the following which apply to this chemical:

- () Placed in Reevaluation () On Restrict Materials List
 (x) On Ground Water Protection List () Toxic Air Contaminant
 () Other _____

II. Contact the appropriate County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

Name: Louie Guerra Title: Supervising Ag Standards Spec.

Date Contacted: December 2, 2009

III. Investigation of general area surrounding positive wells

Date of Investigation: December 1, 2009

Examine the detection area by driving around the perimeter of the section in which a contaminated well is located and on roads within the section, to record notable observations including possible point sources. If a well is located near a section boundary, examine the area within ¼ mile of the well extending into the adjacent section also. If the answer to any questions below is yes, please describe in detail on the observation sheet. Attach additional sheets if required.

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------|
| 1. | Are any pesticide storage or production facilities present? | Yes () No (X) |
| 2. | Are there any drainage ditches, pits, or canals present? | Yes () No (X) |
| 3. | Are there any facilities for washing/rinsing pesticide application equipment or containers present? | Yes () No (X) |

Report Prepared by: Leonard Herrera

Report Prepared on: December 21, 2009 Sent to EM on: December 21, 2009

Part I completed by EM
 Part II and III completed by PUE

REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

Additional Observation Sheet

Detection Report # Loc 1041

Observations. List all pertinent information for all notable items: Township/range/section, address, distances to cross street, coordinates, etc. Descriptions or a detailed sketch may be used.

Loc 1041 is adjacent to a residence, with agricultural fields within 100 feet in to the west and east. The well is located approximately 75 feet west of Valentine Ave. and 220 feet south of West Grantline Ave. Photographs showing the location and surrounding area will be submitted at a later time

REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

I. Date Referred PUE: November 5, 2009 Detection Report # Loc 1042

Date Investigation Due: _____ Chemical Detected: Hexazinone

Site of Detection (List township/range/section as well as address with nearest cross street)

Fresno County - Approximately ¼ mile North of Excelsior Ave East side of Valentine Ave.

Sec 36 – Township 17s – Range 19e

Chemical was detected in (x) Ground Water () Soil at _____ depth

Check any of the following which apply to this chemical:

() Placed in Reevaluation () On Restrict Materials List

(x) On Ground Water Protection List () Toxic Air Contaminant

() Other _____

II. Contact the appropriate County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

Name: Louie Guerra Title: Supervising Ag Standards Spec.

Date Contacted: December 2, 2009

III. Investigation of general area surrounding positive wells

Date of Investigation: December 1, 2009

Examine the detection area by driving around the perimeter of the section in which a contaminated well is located and on roads within the section, to record notable observations including possible point sources. If a well is located near a section boundary, examine the area within ¼ mile of the well extending into the adjacent section also. If the answer to any questions below is yes, please describe in detail on the observation sheet. Attach additional sheets if required.

1. Are any pesticide storage or production facilities present? Yes () No (X)

2. Are there any drainage ditches, pits, or canals present? Yes () No (X)

3. Are there any facilities for washing/rinsing pesticide application equipment or containers present? Yes () No (X)

Report Prepared by: Leonard Herrera

Report Prepared on: December 21, 2009 Sent to EM on: December 21, 2009

Part I completed by EM
 Part II and III completed by PUE

REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

Additional Observation Sheet

Detection Report # Loc 1042

Observations. List all pertinent information for all notable items: Township/range/section, address, distances to cross street, coordinates, etc. Descriptions or a detailed sketch may be used.

Loc 1042 is adjacent to the site of the original farm house which is no longer present. It currently serves two residences across an unlined irrigation supply canal to the north. The well is approximately 190 feet east of Valentine Ave, and 880 feet north of Excelsior Ave. Photographs showing the location and surrounding area will be submitted at a later time

REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

I. Date Referred PUE: November 5, 2009 Detection Report # Loc 1043

Date Investigation Due: _____ Chemical Detected: Hexazinone

Site of Detection (List township/range/section as well as address with nearest cross street)

Fresno County - West side of South Marks Ave South side of Lewiston Ave.

Sec 36 – Township 17s – Range 19e

Chemical was detected in (☒) Ground Water (☐) Soil at _____ depth

Check any of the following which apply to this chemical:

(☐) Placed in Reevaluation (☐) On Restrict Materials List

(☒) On Ground Water Protection List (☐) Toxic Air Contaminant

(☐) Other _____

II. Contact the appropriate County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

Name: Louie Guerra Title: Supervising Ag Standards Spec.

Date Contacted: December 2, 2009

III. Investigation of general area surrounding positive wells

Date of Investigation: December 1, 2009

Examine the detection area by driving around the perimeter of the section in which a contaminated well is located and on roads within the section, to record notable observations including possible point sources. If a well is located near a section boundary, examine the area within ¼ mile of the well extending into the adjacent section also. If the answer to any questions below is yes, please describe in detail on the observation sheet. Attach additional sheets if required.

1. Are any pesticide storage or production facilities present? Yes (☐) No (☒)

2. Are there any drainage ditches, pits, or canals present? Yes (☐) No (☒)

3. Are there any facilities for washing/rinsing pesticide application equipment or containers present? Yes (☐) No (☒)

Report Prepared by: Leonard Herrera

Report Prepared on: December 21, 2009 Sent to EM on: December 21, 2009

Part I completed by EM
 Part II and III completed by PUE

REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

Additional Observation Sheet

Detection Report # Loc 1043

Observations. List all pertinent information for all notable items: Township/range/section, address, distances to cross street, coordinates, etc. Descriptions or a detailed sketch may be used.

Loc 1043 is adjacent to a residence, an unlined irrigation supply canal, and agricultural fields. The well is located approximately 450 feet west of Marks Ave. and 90 feet south of Lewiston Ave. Photographs showing the location and surrounding area will be submitted at a later time



Department of Pesticide Regulation



Mary-Ann Warmerdam
Director

MEMORANDUM

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

TO: John S. Sanders, Ph.D.
Environmental Program Manager II
Environmental Monitoring Branch

FROM: Nan Gorder, Ph.D., Chief
Enforcement Branch
916-324-4265

Original signed by

DATE: June 2, 2010

SUBJECT: FIELD INVESTIGATION – HEXAZINONE WELL SURVEY

On February 25, 2010, Eric Smith, a Staff Environmental Scientist with the Pesticide Enforcement Branch Northern Regional Office, and Craig Nordmark, an Environmental Scientist with the Environmental Monitoring Branch Ground Water Unit, conducted field investigation surveys near the town of Tracy in San Joaquin County. The surveys were conducted to gather evidence in an effort to determine if hexazinone residues detected in two domestic wells near Tracy had reached ground water for reasons other than legal agricultural use of the herbicide. The investigative reports are attached.

The areas were surveyed in accordance with the Report of Field Investigation of Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act Detection Area, Parts II and III. Staff surveyed approximately one-half mile around each domestic well where hexazinone had been detected for the presence of:

- Pesticide storage or production facilities,
- Irrigation drainage ditches, canals, pits or ponds,
- Facilities for washing and/or rinsing pesticide application equipment, and/or
- Pesticide containers.

Staff found what appeared to be an old pesticide sales facility. The history of this facility is being investigated. Staff also found irrigation drainage ditches, pits, ponds and canals. Not observed were pesticide application equipment; washing or rinsing facilities; or hexazinone containers in the areas surrounding these domestic wells. Some of the drainage ponds examined were determined to be used for collecting agricultural runoff. The unlined irrigation supply canal was more than a mile from the two of the wells. Close to the contaminated wells, several areas with standing water and areas created to contain runoff were observed.

Attachments

cc: Jim Shattuck, Environmental Program Manager I (w/Attachments)
Eric Smith, Staff Environmental Scientist (w/Attachments)
Craig Nordmark, Environmental Scientist (w/Attachments)



REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

- I. Date Referred PUE: January 27, 2010 Detection Report # Loc 3904
 Date Investigation Due: _____ Chemical Detected: Hexazinone
 Site of Detection (List township/range/section as well as address with nearest cross street)
San Joaquin Co. - Approximately 139 feet mile North of Lovey Rd., 280 feet east of Bird Rd.
Sec 30 – Township 02s – Range 06e
 Chemical was detected in (x) Ground Water () Soil at _____ depth
 Check any of the following which apply to this chemical:
 () Placed in Reevaluation () On Restrict Materials List
 (x) On Ground Water Protection List () Toxic Air Contaminant
 () Other _____

- II. Contact the appropriate County Agricultural Commissioner's Office
 Name: Scott Hudson Title: San Joaquin Agricultural Commissioner
 Date Contacted: CAC Staff declined to accompany DPR along on the 2/25/10 field survey.

III. Investigation of general area surrounding positive wells

Date of Investigation: 2/25/10

Examine the detection area by driving around the perimeter of the section in which a contaminated well is located and on roads within the section, to record notable observations including possible point sources. If a well is located near a section boundary, examine the area within ¼ mile of the well extending into the adjacent section also. If the answer to any questions below is yes, please describe in detail on the observation sheet. Attach additional sheets if required.

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Are any pesticide storage or production facilities present? | Yes () No (X) |
| 2. Are there any drainage ditches, pits, or canals present? | Yes (x) No () |
| 3. Are there any facilities for washing/rinsing pesticide application equipment or containers present? | Yes () No (X) |

Report Prepared by: Eric Smith

Report Prepared on: 5/6/10

Sent to EM on: 5/6/10

Part I completed by EM
 Part II and III completed by PUE

REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

Additional Observation Sheet

Detection Report # Loc 3904

Observations. List all pertinent information for all notable items: Township/range/section, address, distances to cross street, coordinates, etc. Descriptions or a detailed sketch may be used.

The well is located to behind the residence. No point sources were located within ¼ mile.

The residence is surrounded by agricultural fields, the closest within 40 feet to the south of the well. These fields were fallow or had a grain crop planted at the time of the survey.

A set of two interconnected runoff collection ponds are located 360 feet to the west. A larger pond is located 800 feet to the northwest. This latter pond is used to collect runoff from an adjacent industrial vehicle yard.

There is a facility located ½ mile to the south of the well along Bird Rd. that may have handled pesticides for sale in the past. The history of this facility is currently being researched by San Joaquin County staff and any pertinent information found will be added to this document when it becomes available.

REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

I. Date Referred PUE: January 27, 2010 Detection Report # Loc 3911

Date Investigation Due: March 03, 2010 Chemical Detected: Hexazinone

Site of Detection (List township/range/section as well as address with nearest cross street)

San Joaquin Co. - Approximately 164 feet south of Grantline Rd., 0.1 mile east of Bird Rd.

Sec 19 – Township 02s – Range 06e

Chemical was detected in (☒) Ground Water (☐) Soil at _____ depth

Check any of the following which apply to this chemical:

(☐) Placed in Reevaluation (☐) On Restrict Materials List

(☒) On Ground Water Protection List (☐) Toxic Air Contaminant

(☐) Other _____

II. Contact the appropriate County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

Name: Scott Hudson Title: San Joaquin Agricultural Commissioner

Date Contacted: CAC Staff declined to accompany DPR along on the 2/25/10 field survey.

III. Investigation of general area surrounding positive wells

Date of Investigation:

2/25/10

Examine the detection area by driving around the perimeter of the section in which a contaminated well is located and on roads within the section, to record notable observations including possible point sources. If a well is located near a section boundary, examine the area within ¼ mile of the well extending into the adjacent section also. If the answer to any questions below is yes, please describe in detail on the observation sheet. Attach additional sheets if required.

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Are any pesticide storage or production facilities present? | Yes (<input type="checkbox"/>) No (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>) |
| 2. | Are there any drainage ditches, pits, or canals present? | Yes (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>) No (<input type="checkbox"/>) |
| 3. | Are there any facilities for washing/rinsing pesticide application equipment or containers present? | Yes (<input type="checkbox"/>) No (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>) |

Report Prepared by: Eric Smith

Report Prepared on: 5/6/10 Sent to EM on: 5/6/10

Part I completed by EM
 Part II and III completed by PUE

REPORT OF FIELD INVESTIGATION
OF PCPA DETECTION AREA

Additional Observation Sheet

Detection Report # Loc 3911

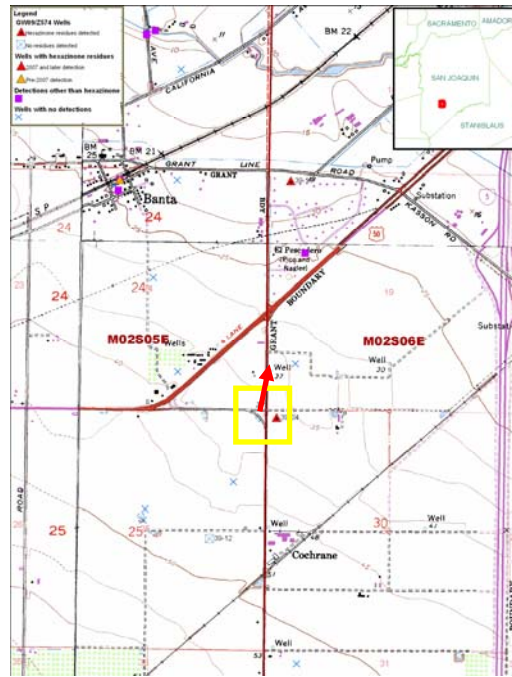
Observations. List all pertinent information for all notable items: Township/range/section, address, distances to cross street, coordinates, etc. Descriptions or a detailed sketch may be used.

The well was located in the front yard of residence on the northern edge of an area of ranch style homes on large lots. No point sources for pesticides were noted

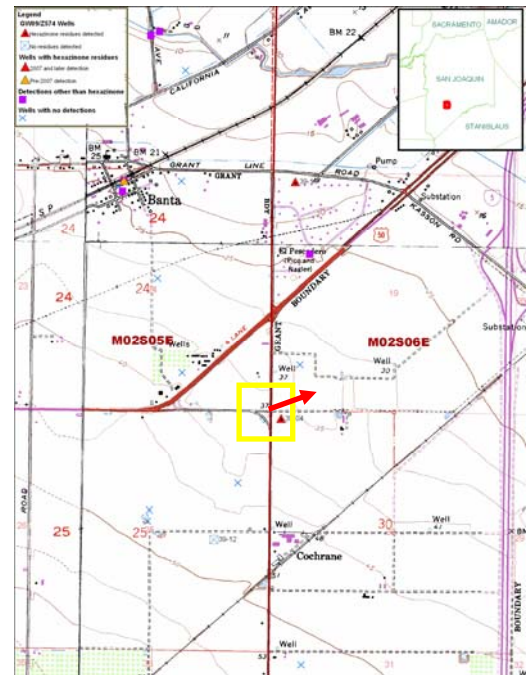
The nearest agricultural field was located across the Grantline Road, 200 feet to the north. This field has been planted in alfalfa at various times in the past.

A irrigation canal/ditch was located about 275 feet north of the well. This feature appeared to function both for water supply and collection of field runoff.

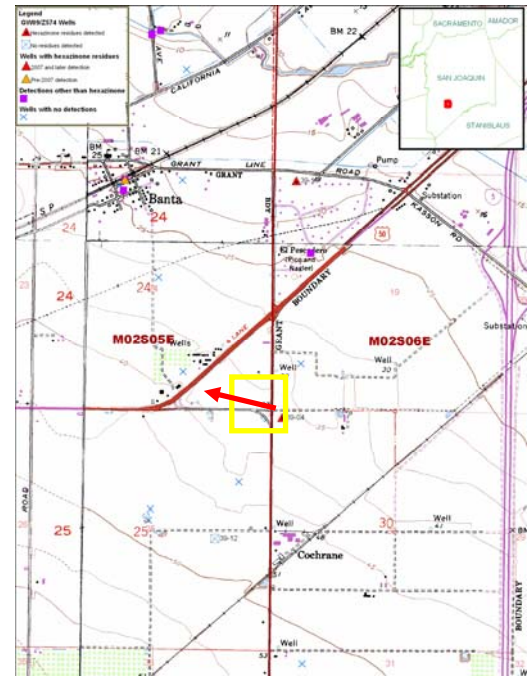
Attachment 3 – Site Inspection Photographs and Maps



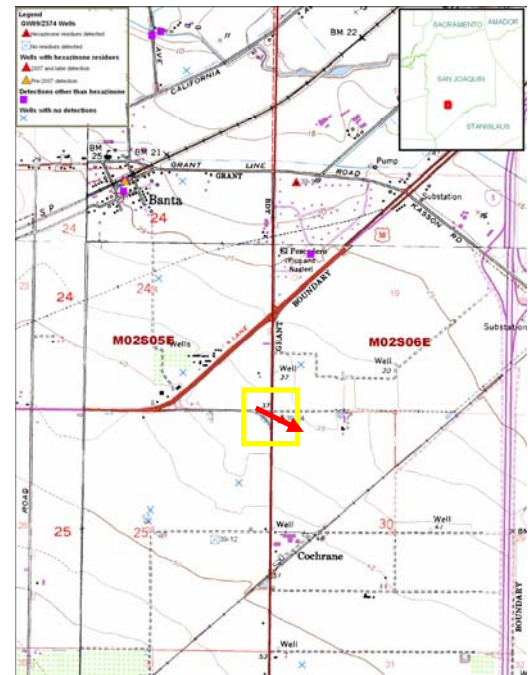
Filled culvert/pipe output connecting 2 runoff ponds in NE corner of section 25. Pond was vegetation filled and smaller than the manicured pond on the other side of the road. Location 3904 is the white house in the picture below.



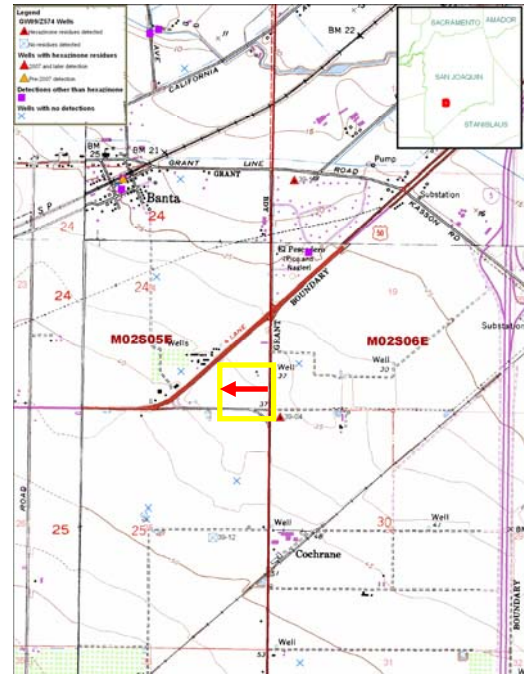
Attachment 3 – Site Inspection Photographs and Maps



Picture above and below shows the larger of 2 connected ponds in the NE corner of section 25. Connection runs under the road. Ponds collect water from the large field to the SW.



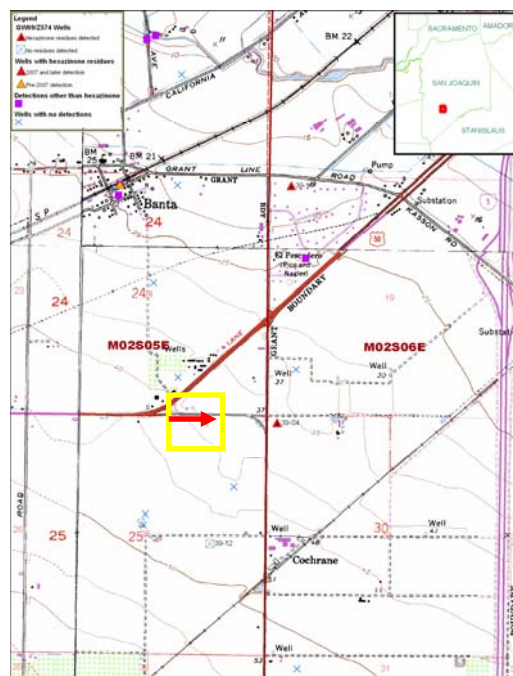
Attachment 3 – Site Inspection Photographs and Maps



Two pictures looking west of a large runoff pond in the SE corner of section 24. This pond drains an industrial/ vehicle yard area to the north. No agricultural drainage was noted



Attachment 3 – Site Inspection Photographs and Maps



Large runoff pond in the north central area of Section 25. Pump appears to be used to recycle water from the pond back to the field





Department of Pesticide Regulation



Mary-Ann Warmerdam
Director

MEMORANDUM

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

TO: Lisa Ross, Ph.D.
Environmental Program Manager I
Environmental Monitoring Branch

FROM: Craig Nordmark
Environmental Scientist
Environmental Monitoring Branch
916-324-4138

Original signed by

DATE: October 7, 2010

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION OF THE PESTICIDE FACILITY SOUTH
OF THE WELL WITH HEXAZINONE RESIDUES IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
IN SECTION 02S/06E-30

Hexazinone residues were detected in a well San Joaquin County in section 02S/06E-30 east of Tracy during sampling done as part of study GW09. A field survey to identify potential point sources of contamination was conducted by me and Eric Smith of the Enforcement Branch on February 25, 2010. At that time a potential pesticide handling facility was identified approximately 0.5 miles south of the well. Old signage on some of the buildings indicated that the facility had at one time been a commercial enterprise but no history was known. The San Joaquin Agricultural Commissioner's Office was asked to determine the history of the facility.

On July 16, 2010, I received a voice mail from Tom Reed, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner detailing the results of his investigation. The facility had originally been named Rhodes Bean and Supply. He contacted the previous owners and was told that they had never sold hexazinone and that no repackaging of pesticides was done at that facility.

This information should eliminate this facility as a potential point source of the hexazinone residues.

cc: Lisa Quagliaroli

